

REMARKS

In response to the office action dated 28 July 2006, the applicant requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 3-17, 20-23, 25-29, and 31-33 are pending in the application. Claim 16 will be amended, and new claims 34-36 will be added, upon entry of the present amendment. As a result, claims 1, 3-17, 20-23, 25-29, and 31-36 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The office action indicated that claims 1, 3-15, 22-23, 25-29, and 31-33 are allowed.

New Claims

New claims 34-36 will be added upon entry of the present amendment. New claims 34-35 are the same as original claims 18-19 that were canceled in the prior amendment. New claim 36 includes features similar to features recited in allowed claim 7.

Information Disclosure Statements

The applicant filed Information Disclosure Statements on 10 June 2004, 19 January 2005, and 30 June 2006. All of these IDSs are acknowledged in PAIR. The Form 1449 of the 19 January IDS was returned to the applicant, but Owen, R, et al. was not initialed. The Forms 1449 of the 10 June 2004 and 30 June 2006 IDSs were not returned to the applicant.

The applicant respectfully requests entry of these Information Disclosure Statements, and requests that the documents listed on the attached Forms 1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, the applicant requests that copies of the Forms 1449, fully initialed as being considered by the Examiner, be returned to the applicant with the next official communication.

Rejections of Claims Under §103

Claims 16 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,075,484, Daniel) in view of Yun (U.S. Patent No. 6,463,295) and Keskitalo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,345,188, Keskitalo). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel, Yun and Keskitalo, and further in view of Roddy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,127,740, Roddy). The applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 16 will be amended upon entry of the present amendment to recite features similar to features recited in allowed claim 6. The applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 16 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 17, 20, and 21 are dependent on amended claim 16, and recite further features with respect to claim 16. For reasons analogous to those stated above, and the features in the claims, the applicant respectfully submits that claims 17, 20, and 21 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone attorney Robert Mates at 612-373-6973 to discuss any questions which may remain with respect to the present application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

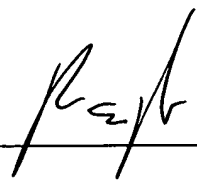
Respectfully submitted,

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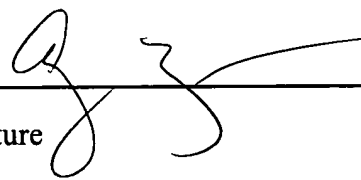
Date 30 October 2006

By


Robert E. Mates
Reg. No. 35,271

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 30th day of October 2006.

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